Mortals Awake

This rousing Christmas carol appeared in the 1835 LDS hymnal. It was also mentioned by Joseph Smith in the History of the Church v. 6 p. 134:

“Dec. 25, 1843: This morning, about one o’clock, I was aroused by an English sister, Lettice Rushton, widow of Richard Rushton, Senior, (who, ten years ago, lost her sight), accompanied by three of her sons, with their wives, and her two daughters, with their husbands, and several of their neighbors, singing, “Mortals, awake! with angels join,” &c., which caused a thrill of pleasure to run through my soul. All of my family and boarders arose to hear the serenade, and I felt to thank my Heavenly Father for their visit, and blessed them in the name of the Lord.”

Samuel Medley

Mortals Awake

George Frederick Handel
Arranged by Kurt Kamnurray

1 Mortals, awake! with angels join, And chant the solemn lay; Love, joy, and gratitude combine To hail th’auspicious day. 4 Down through the portals of the sky The pealing anthem ran, And angels flew, with eager joy, To bear the news to man.

2 In heav’n the rapt’rous song began, And sweet seraphic fire Through all the shining legions ran, And swept the sounding lyre. 5 With joy the chorus we’ll repeat, “Glory to God on high; Good will and peace are now complete Jesus was born to die!”

3 The theme, the song, the joy was new To each angelic tongue; Swift through the realms of light it flew, And loud the echo rung. 6 Hail, Prince of Life, forever hail! Redeemer, brother, friend! Though earth, and time, and life should fail, Thy praise shall never end.